

December 7, 2016

John Smith, Village Manager
Village of Mytown
1234 Main Street
Mytown, MI 45678

RE: New Local Grade Crossing Surface Program & Call for Projects

Dear Road Agency Partner:

As you may know, the road funding package signed into law in December of 2015 included the creation of a local public highway-railroad grade crossing surface program. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has been tasked with development and administration of this annual program in accordance with its enabling legislation, details of which can be found in Act 51, MCL 247.661(1)(d), with relevant excerpts provided below for reference:

- (i) In prioritizing projects, the department shall consider **vehicular traffic volumes**, relative crossing **surface condition**, the ability of the railroad and local road authority to make **coordinated improvements**...
- (ii) The grade crossing **surface account shall fund 60% of the project**, with the **remaining 40% funded by the railroad** company...

In cooperation with the County Road Association of Michigan, the Michigan Municipal League, and the Michigan Railroads Association, MDOT has created a project solicitation and selection process that assures equal opportunity for all prospective participants. A brief overview of the inaugural program follows:

- **Applications will be accepted if received via e-mail or postmarked by January 27, 2017**
- Applications must be submitted by road agencies, in cooperation with a participating railroad
- **Applications must include detailed railroad estimates and updated vehicle traffic counts**
- Eligible project costs include materials, labor and equipment: engineering costs are not eligible
- **Applications will be evaluated and projects will be selected and announced by early February**
- Project selection will be in compliance with the criteria established in the new law

All prospective projects require proof of 40% railroad participation and documentation that relevant MMUTCD-compliant traffic control plans have been approved by the affected road agency, so *it is incumbent upon railroads and road agencies to work together to assure that applications are complete and accurate*. It should also be noted there are significant public advantages if a proposed project includes coordinated adjacent road work, as the entire crossing environment can be enhanced all at one time. Therefore, road agencies are encouraged to seek opportunities to combine adjacent roadway surface improvement projects with any pending railroad crossing applications.

Application materials and instructions are available on-line at the MDOT Office of Rail web page, and a list of railroad contact information is attached for your reference. Please feel free to contact my office directly at 517-335-3054 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Kristian Foondle, Manager
Local Grade Crossing Programs
www.michigan.gov/mdotrail

Enclosure: Railroad Crossing Contact List

RAILROAD CROSSING CONTACT LIST

Adrian & Blissfield Railroad (ADBF)	Mark Dobronski (734) 641-2300
AMTRAK	Dave Klouda (312) 656-9107
Ann Arbor Railroad (AA)	Steve Ayala (419) 206-8172
Charlotte Southern Railroad (CHS)	Mark Dobronski (734) 641-2300
CN (CN)	Jim Gasecki (248) 431-0649
Conrail (CR)	Tim Tierney (856) 231-2021
Coopersville & Marne Railway (CM)	Jerry Ricard (616) 997-7000
CSX Transportation (CSX)	Amanda DeCesare (859) 372-6124
Delray Connecting Railroad (DC)	Daniel Bolton (313) 749-5202
Detroit Connecting Railroad (DCON)	Mark Dobronski (734) 641-2300
Escanaba & Lake Superior Railroad (ELS)	Bob Anderson (906) 280-2513
Grand Elk Railroad (GDLK)	Mike Gillikin (616) 291-3489
Grand Rapids Eastern Railroad (GRE)	Scott Sandoval (614) 479-1683
Great Lakes Central Railroad (GLC)	Mark Russell (989) 666-2706
Huron & Eastern Railway (HE)	Luke Ziesemer (989) 797-5129
Indiana Northeastern Railroad (IN)	Troy Strane (517) 617-1908
Indiana & Ohio Railway (IO)	Scott Sandoval (614) 479-1683
Jackson & Lansing Railroad	Mark Dobronski (734) 641-2300
Lapeer Industrial Railroad (LIRR)	Mark Dobronski (734) 641-2300
Lake State Railway (LSRC)	Mark Pennell (989) 529-6640
Lake Superior & Ishpeming (LSI)	James Scullion (906) 475-7901
Marquette Rail (MQT)	Scott Sandoval (614) 479-1683
Michigan Shore Railroad (MS)	Scott Sandoval (614) 479-1683
Michigan Southern Railroad (MSO)	Shane Cullen (309) 369-4143
Mid-Michigan Railroad (MM)	Scott Sandoval (614) 479-1683
Mineral Range Railroad (MR)	Christopher Jones (608) 745-8009
Norfolk Southern Railway (NS)	John Fleps (313) 323-5101
West Michigan Railroad (WMI)	Mike Hmatiuk (989) 615-1037

SPECIAL NOTE: in compliance with MCL 462.309(4), any change in elevation of a grade crossing greater than 1 inch requires advance mutual agreement between the railroad and road agency. Please be sure to review all proposed work and coordinate with the railroad accordingly.